

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7295

INFO USIA WASHDC

USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 BUCHAREST 4666

GENEVA FOR USDEL CSCE STEFAN

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OEXC, RO

SUBJ: MID-TERM REVIEW TALKS U.S.-ROMANIAN EXCHANGES AGREEMENT
OF DECEMBER, 1972

REF: STATE 246504

1. EMBOFFS (GILBERT, GRUNER, OPPEN, RENTSCHLER),
TOGETHER WITH ROMANIAN REPRESENTATIVES FROM MFA, MINED,
NCST, AND COUNCIL FOR SOCIALIST CULTURE AND EDUCATION,
CONCLUDED BRISK, UPBEAT HALF-DAY SESSION DECEMBER 20
COVERING MID-TERM REVIEW OF CURRENT BILATERAL EXCHANGES
AGREEMENT. DEPUTY FONMIN GLIGA RECEIVED PARTICIPANTS
UPON CONCLUSION OF TALKS IN MFA AND EXPRESSED GOR
SATISFACTION WITH RESULTS OF PAST YEAR'S EXPERIENCE,
ALLUDING TO INDIRECT LINKAGE BETWEEN SUCCESS OF
CEAUSESCU TRIP TO U.S. AND BROADENING RANGE OF
INITIATIVES IN EXCHANGE FIELD.

2. BOTH SIDES KEYNOTED POSITIVE ASPECTS OF PERFORMANCE
DURING FIRST YEAR OF PRESENT BILATERAL ACCORDS AND
AGREED THAT EXISTING PROBLEMS WERE MINOR. PRINCIPAL
POINTS EMERGING FROM DISCUSSION CAN BE SUMMARIZED AS
FOLLOWS:

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3. ARTICLE I, U.S. EMPHASIZED ROMANIAN RESPONSIBILITIES FOR FUNDING OF AMERICAN SCHOLARS' INTERNAL EXPENSES (PARA 3 REFTEL) AND RECEIVES ASSURANCE THAT INCIDENT SUCH LAMB CASE WOULD NOT RECUR. U.S. ALSO RAISED IN LOWER KEY OUR CONTINUING CONCERN WITH AND NEED FOR TIMELY NOMINATIONS, ENGLISH-LANGUAGE COMPETENCE, OTHER TECHNICAL DATA VIS-A-VIS ROMANIAN GRANTEES. EXPRESSING FORTHCOMING ATTITUDE ON ALL THESE POINTS, ROMANIAN SIDE EXPRESSED THEIR CONCERN REGARDING STIPEND SITUATION FOR ROMANIAN LECTURERS IN U.S. IN THEIR VIEW, UNWILLINGNESS OF SOME U.S. UNIVERSITIES TO ACCEPT ROMANIAN NOMINEES WHO DO NOT ENJOY FULL SALARY PARITY WITH AMERICAN COUNTERPARTS IS MAKING IT INCREASINGLY DIFFICULT TO PLACE OTHERWISE HIGHLY QUALIFIED CANDIDATES. U.S. SIDE ACKNOWLEDGED EXISTENCE OF PROBLEM AND PROMISED TO "EXPLORE" THIS MATTER WITH DEPARTMENT IN COMING MONTHS WITH VIEW TOWARD REACHING MUTUALLY SATISFACTORY ARRANGEMENT WHICH WOULD FACILITATE PLACEMENT OF ROMANIAN LECTURER NOMINEES. ROMANIAN SIDE ALSO REITERATED INTENTION NOMINATE UNIVERSITY DELEGATION IN TIME MEET SPRING TIME-FRAME (MARCH, APRIL) AND HOPED SUBMIT NAMES, DESIDERATA "IN JANUARY."

4. ARTICLE II. U.S. SIDE AIRED MINOR PROBLEMS RE NON-RECEIPT OF JOINT RESEARCH PROGRESS REPORTS AS PER PARA 5 REFTEL AND WELCOMED ROMANIAN ASSERTION THAT EFFORT WOULD BE MADE CORRECT THESE DEFICIENCIES. WAYNE STATE CASE, ROMANIANS EXPLAINED, WAS RESULT OF "MISUNDERSTANDING" AT TIMISOARA END, WHILE NORTH CAROLINA STATE CASE INVOLVED "UNCLEAR FACTORS" WHICH BOTH NCST AND BUCHAREST CENTER FOR PHYSICAL CHEMISTRY WERE LOOKING INTO. ROMANIAN SIDE EMPHASIZED CONTINUING GOR INTEREST IN AND SUPPORT FOR PROGRAMS OF THIS KIND AND ASKED U.S. SIDE TO NOTE THAT GOR ATTACHED PARTICULAR IMPORTANCE TO THE "TECHNOLOGY" PART OF ARTICLE II'S TITLE "SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY." ROMANIAN SIDE ALSO EXPRESSED GRATITUDE FOR EMBASSY'S DONATION OF APOLLO LEM MODEL TO BUCHAREST TECHNOLOGICAL MUSEUM (CF. BUCHAREST 1659) WHICH HAS GENERATED "EXCEPTIONAL INTEREST AMONG ROMANIAN PUBLIC, ESPECIALLY UNIVERSITY STUDENTS."

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5. ARTICLE III. WHILE U.S. SIDE HAD NOTHING SPECIFIC TO RAISE, ROMANIANS MADE FAMILIAR PITCH FOR A PRESTIGIOUS SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA AS U.S. PERFORMING ARTS ATTRACTION HERE TOGETHER WITH PRESENCE OF INTERNATIONALLY KNOWN AMERICAN CONDUCTOR. IN ADDITION, ROMANIAN SIDE EXPRESSED HOPE THAT USG MIGHT BE IN POSITION TO HELP PROMOTE SOL HUOK ACCEPTANCE OF ENESCU PHILHARMONIC

AS MAJOR ROMANIAN ATTRACTION IN U.S. ON FIRST POINT, EMBOFFS EXPRESSED SYMPATHY WITH ROMANIAN DESIRES AND, WHILE CITING FISCAL AND SCHEDULING CONSTRAINTS WHICH INEVITABLY ARISE WITH PERFORMING ARTS PROJECT AS MAMMOTH AS SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA, PROMISED REITERATE TO DEPARTMENT AND AGENCY POST'S LONG-STANDING INTEREST IN SUCH A DEVELOPMENT. RE HUOK, POINT WAS MADE THAT WHILE WE IN PRICIPLE ANXIOUS TO DO WHAT COULD BE DONE TO PROSPER ENTERPRISE OF THAT SORT, AMOUNT OF INFLUENCE USG COULD BRING TO BEAR ON COMMERCIAL IMPRESARIOS WAS NOT UNLIMITED; EMBOFFS ALSO EXPRESSED VIEW THAT ROMANIAN EMBASSY'S PRESS & CULTURAL SECTION IN WASHINGTON AS WELL AS ROMANIAN LIBRARY IN NEW YORK UNDOUBTEDLY HAD USEFUL ROLE TO PLAY IN DEVELOPING CONTACTS WITH AMERICAN IMPRESARIOS WHO MIGHT BE INTERESTED IN BRINGING ROMANIAN PERFORMING ARTS ATTRACTIONS TO U.S. PUBLIC.

6. ARTICLE VI. U.S. SIDE REVIEWED CURRENT STATUS OF PROGRESS & ENVIRONMENT EXHIBIT (VI-1) AND AMON CARTER WESTERN ART EXHIBIT (VI-2), AT SAME TIME SEEKING TO

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 CU-04 SCI-06 NSF-04 CIAE-00

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DISSIPATE ROMANIAN "CONFUSION" (PERHAPS WILLFUL) OVER INTERPRETATION OF PARAGRAPH II-A OF EXISTING IMPLEMENTING CONDITIONS, PARTICULARLY AS THESE AFFECT THE ONE-TIME EXCEPTION WHICH U.S. AGREED TO IN CONNECTION WITH ROMANIAN CONTEMPORARY PAINTING EXHIBIT (WHEREBY U.S. PICKED UP INTERNAL TRANSPORT CHARGES FOR LATTER). EMBOFFS

PRESSED VIEW THAT THIS EXCEPTION, MADE IN SPIRIT OF AGREEMENT AT COUNCIL'S REQUEST, COULD NOT BE CONSIDERED PRECEDENT CHANGING PRESENT STATUS OF ARTICLE VI, VIEW WHICH COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE DECLINED TO CHALLENGE. U.S. SIDE ALSO INDICATED, IN ACCORDANCE WITH PARAGRAPH II-B OF IMPLEMENTING CONDITIONS, USG DESIRE HAVE SENDING SIDE PAY ALL EXPENSES, INCLUDING INTERNAL TRAVEL AND PER DIEM OF ACCOMPANYING CURATOR, FOR EXHIBITS OF KIND DESCRIBED IN PRESENT ARTICLE VI-1. BOTH SIDES AGREED THAT THIS ISSUE WAS ONE WHICH MIGHT BE USEFULLY ADDRESSED, PERHAPS AT TIME WHEN NEW TWO-YEAR AGREEMENT IS NEGOTIATED. IN SAME CONNECTION NOTE WAS TAKEN OF DESIRABILITY OF ELIMINATING ALL POSSIBLE AMBIGUITY IN ROMANIAN AND ENGLISH LANGUAGE VERSIONS OF FUTURE IMPLEMENTING CONDITIONS.

7. CONSIDERATION OF ARTICLES IV, V, VII, VIII, IX, X, AND XI REVEALED NO SIGNIFICANT DEFICIENCIES ON EITHER SIDE. IN CONNECTION WITH V, EMBOFFS EXPRESSED VIEW THAT THIS ARTICLE IMPLICITLY SUPPORTED THE CLOSE TECHNICAL CONFIDENTIAL

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COLLABORATION WHICH CHARACTERIZED MEDIA COVEFAGE, ESPECIALLY USIA-FACILITATED SATELLITE TV FEEDS, DURING PRESIDENT CEAUSESCU'S OFFICIAL VISIT TO THE U.S. EARLIER THIS MONTH, THUS RENDERING IN A VERY REAL SINSE THE SUBSTANCE OF THE BILATERAL EXCHANGES AGREEMENT RESPONSIVE TO HIGHEST LEVELS OF U.S.-ROMANIAN RELATIONS.

8. DURING BRIEF CONSIDERATION OF ARTICLE VIII, MFA REPRESENTATIVE ALLUDED TO POSSIBLE EXCHANGE OF "PARLIAMENTARY" DELEGATIONS IN THE CONTEXT OF REFERENCES TO THE HIGH-LEVEL INVITATIONS ISSUED BY PRESIDENT CEAUSESCU DURING U.S. VISIT. U.S. SIDE PROMISED TO REPORT CONTINUING ROMANIAN INTEREST IN SUCH VISITS AND TO DO WHATEVER MAY BE APPROPRIATE TO FACILITATE THEIR OCCURRENCE "THROUGH DIPLOMATIC CHANNELS" AS CALLED FOR IN PRESENT AGREEMENT.

9. NB. STATE 247423 ARRIVED TOO LATE FOR USE WITH DECEMBER 20 MORNING SESSION. SUBJECT DID NOT IN ANY CASE COME UP AND WILL, SO FAR AS WE CAN JUDGE, PRESENT NO PROBLEM SINCE ALL PARTIES SHARE DEPARTMENT UNDERSTANDING THIS MATTER.
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